



## **Open Space Committee**

Date: Thurs, September 22, 2022

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Present: : Ann LeRoyer, David Morgan, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Shirley Canniff, David White, Wendy Richter, Emily Nink, Brian McBride, Eliza Hatch

Absent: Teresa DeBenedictis, Brian Kelder

Members of the public: Larry Slotnick

### **Minutes**

#### **1. OSC Administration**

- a. D. White motioned to approve the July 28 and August 25, 2022, minutes.  
E. Nink seconded. All approved.
- b. The group agreed to continue using Zoom for meetings rather than meet regularly in person.

#### **2. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2022-2029 Update**

- a. D. Morgan shared that the ADA Self Evaluation for the OSRP was complete and that he would compile it for submission.
- b. A. LeRoyer offered that the group should consider taking up priority projects identified in the OSRP update process starting in October 2022.  
D. Morgan said that DPW receives CDBG funds each year for accessibility improvements and suggested the Open Space Committee could submit to DPW the list of curb cuts that the Disability Commission identified as part of the OSRP update.

#### **3. CPA Project Updates**

- a. S. Canniff said that the Reservoir's reopening has been a huge success.  
D. White said that preparations for closing out the season were underway.
- b. D. Morgan said that work at Wellington Park is paused for the winter and will resume in the spring to resolve outstanding issues with the landscaping there.
- c. S. Canniff reported that Hurd Field renovations should be finished by the end of fall 2022.

- d. D. Morgan shared that RFPs for Mt. Gilboa and Cooke's Hollow would go out next week. S. Canniff said that interviews to find a designer for Robbins Farm Park playground were under way.
- e. D. Morgan proposed ideas for preliminary applications for 2023-24 projects, due October 7. One proposal was for a feasibility study for preservation of No Name Brook along the Minuteman Bikeway, in line with the Bikeway Plan. D. White asked whether the MBTA would need to be consulted. D. Morgan responded that the Planning Department feels the project to be within the scope of the Town's lease. E. Carr-Jones asked if Mystic River Watershed Association had been consulted. D. Morgan said they had not. E. Carr-Jones asked how the project was identified as a priority. D. Morgan replied that the release of the Bikeway Plan provided the opportunity and that recent improvements nearby (such as at Hurd Field, the Reservoir) made No Name Brook a natural next step. W. Richter asked if the proposal should be co-sponsored by the Bicycle Advisory Committee. D. Morgan stated that only one entity can be the lead.

S. Canniff said that Park & Rec planned on submitting CPA applications to provide signage at the entrance to Turkey Hill, for the mountain bike course project at Hill's Hill, and for Menotomy Rocks Playground.

D. Morgan added that the Conservation Commission is submitting for a survey of invasive species (types, locations, management, etc.), and for preservation of Mill Brook near Hurd Field.

#### **4. 40B Comprehensive Permit Applications**

- a. No further updates.

#### **5. Other News/Discussion**

- a. D. Morgan shared that the Public Land Management Plan working group met to discuss best practices and recommendations of the plan. The feedback was positive and did not include substantial changes to the findings of the report.
- b. S. Canniff shared that there had not been further discussion of the plan for Hill's Hill other than the decision to apply for CPA funding. B. McBride said he was heartened that Recreation was receptive to feedback about the project.
- c. D. Morgan summarized communication he had with the Girl Scouts about their recommendation to create signage for Arlington Orchard along the Minuteman Bikeway. W. Richter asked whether the project could be a CPA project application. D. Morgan agreed. W. Richter offered to take photographs of prospective locations for signage.
- d. E. Carr-Jones said that Picture Post signage would be forthcoming and could be paid for using the funds on hand.
- e. W. Richter asked if another committee member would be willing to administer the Arlington's Open Spaces Facebook page. B. McBride

offered to help.

6. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

**2022 Meeting Dates** (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday except Nov and Dec) October 27, November 10, December 8